

(a) whether an official task force on export of entertainment goods has suggested a wide range of incentives to the electronic industry and recommended that liberal foreign collaborations be permitted for manufacture of electronic games and hobbies;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions made by the Panel; and

(c) Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Task Force has expressed the view that for electronic games and hobbies, foreign collaboration may be freely permitted, exclusively for export purpose. Duty-free import of components has been recommended, provided the components go into equipment exported with 20 per cent value addition. The Task Force has also recommended increase of cash compensatory support on exports.

The recommendations are being examined in consultation with the concerned Departments.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: The recommendation of the task force would help in boosting exports. However, it is not merely the formulation of policy but its slow implementation which creates road-block. The Government formalities in getting the schemes approved for export of products is very cumbersome. Sometimes it takes more than six months for an exporter to export a particular item. He has to go to as many as six departments to get permission. What steps do the Government have in mind to streamline this process? Instead of going to six departments, would you consider having a central coordinating committee, which would have representatives from each department and would take the final decision speedily?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: We are trying to streamline the procedure so that the things can move fast, but

at the same time, we shall have to take care that it is not misused, because a series of concessions in the form of duty-free imports and other types of concessions including cash compensatory payments are given. That is why a certain amount of vigilance has to be maintained. Apart from that, two or three ministries will be there which will be involved, the actual producing ministries, monitoring and nodal ministries, so far as commerce is concerned. Not only in regard to this item, but in respect of the overall export procedures, we are trying to simplify it. Specially in regard to electronics, perhaps the hon. member is aware that the free-trade zone in Santa Cruz, which is basically meant for export of electronics, is also picking up. Simplification of procedures and quick disposal of the cases are being undertaken there, in addition to the overall simplification procedure pursued by my department.

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Exports to Petrol Dollar Countries

*483. **SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has taken new steps to earn much needed petrodollars recently;

(b) what are the results achieved; and

(c) the exact amount our country earned in last two years from petrol producing countries and the total amount we need to meet our demand?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) Taking into account the interest shown by some oil exporting developing countries for investment in India, Government have decided to provide the following investment facilities:—

(i) Investment from oil exporting developing countries may be permitted in new companies

even if it is in the nature of portfolio investment.

- (ii) Such investment should not exceed 40 per cent in the equity.
- (iii) The new companies should be export-oriented or should undertake manufacturing activities covered under Appendix I of the Industrial Policy of 1973.
- (iv) Investment in the aforesaid pattern may be allowed in hotels.
- (v) Investment may also be allowed in new hospital projects

and such hospitals should have adequate provision for outdoor and emergency medical service to the general public and also for a minimum percentage of occupancy by Indian Public.

(b) While the creation of this new facility has been favourably received by some oil exporting developing countries, it is too early to expect specific results as the facility was announced only in the last week of October, 1980.

(c) It is also too early to expect investments in Private Sector under the above policy. However, the following loans and credits have been received by Government from Oil Exporting Developing Countries.

Loans/credits received from Oil Exporting Developing Countries during 1979-80 and 1980-81

(Figures in Millions)

Agency/Project	Date of Agreement	Currency	Amount
I. OPEC Fund			
(i) Korba Thermal Power Project	16 5-79	US \$	20.000
(ii) Ramagundam Thermal Power Project	24-10-80	US \$	20.000
II. Iraqi Fund for External Development			
Oil Credit	28 8-80	Iraqi Dinar	30.837
		US \$	104.163
	Total	US \$	144.163

Accumulation of yarn in Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini

*487. SHRI KUMBHA RAM ARYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the stocks of yarn in the Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini have been accumulating resulting in an estimated loss of about Rs. 50 lakhs during the last 3 months;

(b) if so, the reasons for the accumulation of yarn stocks;

(c) whether the stocks of any other mill of NTC in U.P. have also exceeded the norms;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) whether inflated profits are being shown in monthly returns by overpricing the stocks?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir. The stocks of yarn in the Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini have always re-